THE PRETENDER's LAST WILL and TESTAMENT.

K. James Edwd. Francis
[Stuart] Prince of Wales
&c &c Pseud.

BRITISH MUSEUM

THE PRETENDER's LAST *Will* and *Teſtament*,

Made at

BAR LE DUC,

The 18th of *January*, $171\frac{4}{5}$.

WITH

A COPY of his Confeſſion immediately before his Death.

Dubius vixi, Anceps morior,
Quo vadam neſcio.

LONDON:

Sold by J. ROBERTS, near the *Oxford-Arms* in *Warwick-Lane*. MDCCXV.

(Price Three-Pence.)

BRITISH MUSEUM

THE PRETENDER's Laſt *Will* and *Teſtament*.

DID we ſeriouſly reflect on the various Accidents and Misfortunes Human Nature is liable to, every Moment of its Exiſtence; how far ſhou'd we be from piquing our ſelves on the greateſt Succeſs and good Fortune we are capable of enjoying! Or did we but conſider, that tho' we are this Minute as happy as poſſible, we can't aſſure our ſelves, but we may the next be as exquiſitely miſerable. Of this, I think there has not been a greater Inſtance, than the late *Pretender*, who, after a Series of Health and Proſperity, for near Five Years together, was on the Firſt of *Auguſt* laſt, (a Time when he thought his Happineſs

very near being compleated,) ſeized ſuddenly, about one of the Clock, with Convulſions, which at length threw him into an Intermitting Fever, in which he lingred till the Eighteenth of *January* laſt; at which time, his Friends perceiving no hopes of his Recovery, deſired him to make his Will, which he did in manner following:

In the Name of — Amen. I, the Chevalier *de St. George* of *Bar le Duc*, in the Dukedom of *Lorain*, being very weak in Body, but of Sound Mind, and Diſpoſing Memory, do make this my laſt Will and Teſtament.

Imprimis, I recommend my Soul to his Holineſs the Pope, to be diſpoſed of as he ſhall think proper.

Item, I bequeath the Kingdom of *Great Britain*, and the Dominions thereto belonging, (ſave *Ireland* and *Jamaica*, which I have diſpoſed of to the *French* King,) to the Duke of *Savoy*, and his Heirs; the Remainder to the Houſe of *Bourbon*; always provided they are not Hereticks.

Item, I bequeath to perfidious *Ox—d*, in Conſideration that his Reſolution was not equal to his Villany, a Block and an Ax.

Item,

Item, I bequeath to my right hardy and faithful *B——k*, a full Power to exact Contribution from all the Whores in and about the Cities of *London* and *Weſtminſter*, with an abſolute Dominion over their Bodies, and a Liberty of Hunting three times a Week in *Greenwich* Park; this being all he deſired, when he paid his Court to me in *Paris*.

Item, I bequeath to my Conſcientious and Well-diſpoſed *H——t*, the Seals (when he can catch them,) alſo the Diſpenſation I received from the Pope, for Lying and Perjury.

Item, I bequeath to the B——p of *L——n*, in Conſideration that for my ſake he laid aſide (during his Reſidence at *Utretcht*,) both Religion and Conſcience, the *A——ch-B——ck* of *C——y*, when the *Roman* Catholick Faith ſhall be eſtabliſhed.

Item, I do hereby appoint my moſt Profound Politician *Str——d*, to be on all Occaſions Ambaſſador Extraordinary to the Courts of *Rome* or *Paris*, he being perfectly well acquainted with all my Affairs in the ſaid Courts.

Item,

Item, I bequeath to my most Faithful and Best-beloved *S——ll*, in Consideration of his great Services done me by his first Stage-Speech, and his firm Adherence to my Interest ever since, a Liberty of erecting a Monastery when and where he thinks fit. I further bequeath him a License to burn in *Smithfield* all False Brethren; being satisfied that under that Character, he will destroy all such as are Enemies to me, or his Holiness. I have likewise requested his Holiness, to continue to him his Pension after my Death; having assur'd him, that he will not fail to merit it, by promoting his Interest in *Great Britain*.

Item, I bequeath to my very Useful and Zealous Sir *C——n P——ps*, the *Bear* Inn at *Reading*, with all the Out-Houses and Stables, as formerly held by his Father. I likewise, in Consideration of his great Services done me, by discountenancing the Rebels of *Ireland*, and in sending me Men from thence, and also in Compliance to his Request made two Years ago, bequeath unto him a Power to massacre all the Hereticks of that Kingdom, it being, as he assures me, as well for my Interest as the Church's.

Item,

Item, I bequeath to my indiſcreetly zealous the B——p of *R*——*r*, a Regiment of Dragoons, to be mounted by *Iriſh* Papiſts; being ſatisfied, that Character is much more agreeable to his Life and Converſation, than his preſent; and that he will be more ſerviceable to the Cauſe, by Dragooning the Hereticks, than Railing from the Pulpit.

Item, I bequeath to my, wou'd-be-thought Religious Sir *W*——*m W*——*m*, a Promiſe I have obtained from my Succeſſor the D—ke of *S*——*y*, *viz.* That he will make him one of his Principal Secretaries of State, that being the only Thing he aimed at (next to the promoting my Intereſt) by introducing the Bill of Schiſm.

Item, I bequeath to Coming, Coming Sir, *Ma*——*w Pr*——*r*, all the empty and full Bottles, which ſhall be found in my Houſe at my Deceaſe; which, together with Ballad-making, will be ſufficient to maintain him. I likewiſe, as a Reward for his great Services done me, and in Conſideration, that he has aſſured me, he by no means dare return to *Great Britain*, have recommended him as Under-Butler to my Brother *Lewis*.

Item,

Item, I bequeath to my Facetious and Deſerving *Jo——n Sw——t*, in Conſideration of his Eminent Services by writing the *Examiner*, a Liberty of writing a Second Part of the *Tale of a Tub*, with a Power of ridiculing the Scriptures, and of inſerting as much Blaſphemy, as, out of the abundance of his Wickedneſs, he ſhall think proper. I further bequeath to him, a Licenſe to crowd into the *Examiner*, as much Scandal and Falſhood as the Cauſe ſhall from time to time require.

Item, I bequeath unto my very Chaſt and Modeſt *Iriſh S——ll*, alias *H——ns*, Three Hundred Pounds a Year for Life, to furniſh him with Pectorals and Reſtoratives, in Conſideration that in my Vindication, he hourly runs the risk of burſting his Lungs. I have likewiſe ſecured to him his Penſion from his Holineſs, having aſſured him, that he will not be in the leaſt behind-hand with his Brother, in promoting his Holineſs's Intereſt.

Item, I bequeath unto my very Honeſt and well-Deſcended *Ar——r M——r*, Three New entire Liveries, and the Care of the Goal of *Monaghan* for Life; not but he has been extreme ſerviceable to me; but,

but, as my Fortune is at preſent very low, and as he took care to reward himſelf, when he made the Treaty of Commerce with my Brother *Lewis*, I leave him this as an Acknowledgment.

Item, I do bequeath all my Perſonal Eſtate, to be diſtributed by my Executors among the *Scaramouches*, in Conſideration that they have been extremely ſerviceable, in ſupporting my Intereſt with the Populace; and likewiſe in Conſideration, that they are appointed by his Holineſs to ſay Nine Thouſand Maſſes for my Soul, while in Purgatory.

Laſtly, I do hereby Conſtitute and Appoint his Holineſs the Pope, and *Lewis* the Fourteenth of *France*, to be Executors to this my laſt Will and Teſtament. In Witneſs whereof, I have hereunto ſet my Hand and Seal this Eighteenth of *January*, 1713.

The Chevalier de St. George.

Delivered and Publiſhed, as my laſt Will and Teſtament, in the Preſence of,

Triers. *Lorain.*

THE PRETENDER's CONFESSION.

ON the Twentieth of *January*, the *Pretender*, finding himſelf extremely weak, deſired his Confeſſor might be called, in order to prepare himſelf for another World, ſince there was no Appearance of continuing much longer in this. The Holy Father appearing, every one (ſave an inviſible Friend, I had like to have ſaid Fiend,) retired. The Father, ſome Ceremonies being over, ſuch as ſprinkling the Chamber and Bed with Holy Water, making ſome Scores of Croſſes, mumbling over a few *Ave-Maries*, and the like, addreſſed himſelf to the *Pretender*, and without further Ceremony acquainted him, he muſt lay aſide all hopes of living; for not only thoſe of *Bar le Duc*, but even the moſt Sanguine Quacks of

Great

Great Britain, had given him over, and were all agreed, he cou'd not out-live Four that Afternoon: He then preſſed him, to make the beſt Uſe of the little Time before him; and told him, to that purpoſe it was neceſſary he ſhou'd, by Confeſſing, prepare himſelf to receive the Holy Sacraments of Abſolution and Extreme Unction. The *Pretender* aſſured him, 'twas with that Deſign he ſent for him; for he was now convinc'd his Diſſolution was very nigh, his Spirits being ſunk ſo very low, as not to be rais'd by that formerly never-failing Charm *Sa——ll* ſent him over about Five Years ago.

The Father being very deſirous to know the Nature of the Charm, the *Pretender*, after he had aſſured him, till then it had never fail'd to relieve him out of all Diſorders; and that about the Time the Treaty of Peace was concluded at *Utrecht*, recovered him out of a Fit of Sickneſs, almoſt as dangerous as his preſent, unfolded to him the Secret. *Sa———ll*, (ſays he) having always my Welfare at heart, hearing that I was frequently troubled with the Spleen, which after a Battel or a Siege in *Flanders*, never failed ſeizing me in a very violent Degree, and was generally attended with a Palpitation of the Heart, ſent me encloſed in a Letter to *St. Germains* this

Charm, which he assured me he had from his Familiar, and with which he had brought over to my Interest the greatest Part of the common People of *Great Britain*. The Charm is this: On the Return of a Fit, after saying one *Pater Noster*, and Three *Ave Maries*, I was to read backwards three times these Words, *viz. The Church is in Danger thro' False Brethren; Indefeasible Hereditary Right; No Presbyterian Government*. The Father, after he had been very liberal in Praise of the Composition, desired him to proceed to his Confession. The *Pretender* asked him, if 'twas necessary he shou'd inform him of publick Affairs. By all means, reply'd the Father; and not only those in which you bore a Part; but also what you know of the Affairs of Eighty Eight. Know then, (says the *Pretender*) I am not the Son of the late King *James*; for he (— rest his Soul) on his Death-bed told me, I was the Son of an honest Bricklayer, but that 'twas absolutely necessary for the Good and Welfare of the Church, I shou'd continue the Cheat. You may imagine, I did not want very many Perswasions, having in View the Crown of *Great Britain*.

He likewise discloſed to me the whole Secret of the Warming-Pan, of which I believe you are not ignorant. Alas! Good Man,

Man, ſo great was his Zeal for the Church; that in his laſt Moments, with the greateſt Earneſtneſs, he conjured me, if I ſhou'd ever ſit on the *Britiſh* Throne, to Eſtabliſh the *Roman-Catholick* Faith, and extirpate Hereſy; an Injunction he might have ſpared. Here the Father interrupting him, with a very heavy Sigh, told him he was perfectly well acquainted with the Affair of the Warming-Pan; for (ſays he) I was at that Time in *London*, being ſent over about Six Months before by his Holineſs, with near Three Hundred Prieſts and Jeſuits, in order to aſſiſt your ſuppoſed Father in his Deſign of Eſtabliſhing the Holy Faith; which we had accompliſh'd, had it not been for that Grand Enemy of our Church the Prince of *Orange*. But proceed. As for the Plot that was deſigned againſt the Prince of *Orange* in my ſuppoſed Father's Time, and diſcovered by *Pendergraſs*, 'twas real; and had it ſucceeded, my ſuppoſed Father was ready to have invaded *England* with a *French* Army. The Report of its being a Sham was induſtriouſly ſpread by our Friends, in hopes to enrage the Populace againſt the Prince of *Orange*. But, as I now come to give you an Account of the *Schemes* and *Projects* in which I was from time to time engaged, in order to obtain the Crown of *Great Britain*, 'tis neceſſary I give you a ſhort

a ſhort Account of the Treaty of Alliance, into which I entered (on the Death of my ſuppoſed Father) with his Holineſs the *Pope*, and my Brother the *French* King. His Holineſs was on his part obliged to continue to me the annual Allowance he granted my ſuppoſed Father, till ſuch time as I ſhould be fixed on the Throne: He was likewiſe obliged (if an Opportunity ſhou'd offer) to aſſiſt me with Men and Money. I on my Part acknowledged his Holineſs's Supremacy, and was ſatisfied to hold my Crown as from him. I alſo obliged my ſelf, not only to eſtabliſh the *Roman Catholick* Faith, but likewiſe to root out Hereſy (if need required) with Faggot and Gibbet. The *French* King was on his Part obliged to continue to me the ſame Penſion he granted my ſuppoſed Father, and (if poſſible) to fix me on the *Britiſh* Throne; which done, he was at his own Expence to maintain an Army of Forty Thouſand Men, which were to remain in *Great Britain*, till ſuch time as I ſhould eſtabliſh our Holy Church, and make my ſelf Abſolute. In Conſideration of theſe Obligations, and the great Services done my Suppoſed Father, I made over to him my Right, Title, and Intereſt in and to the Kingdom of *Ireland*, the Iſland of *Jamaica*, and the Sovereignty of the *Britiſh* Seas. I likewiſe obliged my ſelf

not

not to keep at any one time more than Twenty Men of War, and thoſe not to be above Fourth Rates; all over that Number, which ſhou'd be found in the Dominions of *Great Britain*, were, by Vertue of this Treaty, to be delivered up to him in Three Months after my gaining the Crown. This Treaty being ratified, we began to conſider what Methods were to be taken, in order to obtain our Ends. The firſt Project we concluded to put in Execution, was the Invaſion of One Thouſand Seven Hundred and Eight; the Particulars of which I need not dwell on, the Secret of that Affair being made publick by the unhappy Diſcovery of the *Scotch* Memoirs. This Deſign being rendered abortive by the great Prudence and Induſtry of the then *Britiſh* Miniſtry, we readily concluded, till that Set of Men were removed from about the Perſon of my Suppoſed Siſter, we cou'd propoſe to do nothing conſiderable. This was attempted; but, during the Life of Prince *George*, in vain. But it was not long after, when Fortune (I dare not ſay Heaven) ſeemed to favour our Deſigns by the Death of that Prince. This Hit of good Fortune at once revived our drooping Spirits, and gave freſh Life to our Cauſe: Our Friends in *Great Britain* began afreſh to exert themſelves. We now conſidered

what

what was to be done, in order to bring the then Miniſtry into Diſgrace. Several Schemes were propoſed, but none agreed to; but at laſt 'twas concluded, the People muſt be alarmed, and my ſuppoſed Siſter amuſed with a Notion of the Church's being in Danger of being overthrown by the great Number of Diſſenters, who were encouraged and abetted by the Miniſtry. For the carrying on this Deſign, our Friends in *Great Britain* recommended the now E—l of *Ox——d*, as a proper Perſon, knowing his Fortune to be very deſperate, his Ambition very great, and his Principles (if any) diſſolute. The Bait was no ſooner offer'd him, than he greedily ſwallow'd it. He recommended *Sa——ll*, as the fitteſt Perſon to debauch the Minds of the People, knowing him to be one zealouſly affected to the Cauſe, a Fellow of very ſtrong Lungs, and profound Impudence. A Sermon was accordingly compoſed for him, and Means found to give him an Opportunity of preaching it in the Cathedral of *London*, on a very publick Occaſion. We had taken care to diſperſe proper Perſons throughout the Kingdom to ſecond the Sermon, and magnify the pretended Danger. This ſucceeded to our Heart's Deſire; for in leſs than two Months, the whole Nation was in a Flame. Our Friends in the Houſe of

Com-

Commons made it their Buſineſs to bring *S———ll* to a Tryal, well knowing that it wou'd effectually confirm the Populace in their new Opinion of the Church's being in Danger. This done, 'twas no great Difficulty to perſuade them; there cou'd not be a greater Demonſtration of the Church's Danger, than thus to have the Life (as our Friends termed it) of one of its Doctors publickly attempted. The greateſt Difficulty that was now to be encountered, was the removing that great Man (had he fought on the right Side) the Duke of *M——gh*, were it not for whom my Brother *Lewis* had long e'er now fix'd me on the *Britiſh* Throne. This *Ox——d* alone undertook to perform; for tho' he never was a Man of any great Wiſdom, he had a large ſhare of ſubtil Cunning, which, in a Man void of Principle, (as in him) was capable of performing great Things. He by Fawning and Diſſembling having gain'd his Miſtreſs's Ear, did not fail to inſinuate, that the Duke of *M———gh* was now become dangerous; that he was as populous, as ever *Oliver Cromwell* was, and had as much (or more) the Army in his Intereſt; and that the unhappy Fate of her Grandfather might inform her, ſince the Circumſtances were the ſame, 'twas to be fear'd the Conſequence might prove ſo likewiſe.

wiſe. In ſhort, what with his ſubtil Inſinuations, his conſtant teizing and frighting her with imaginary Dangers, he gain'd that great Point; the Duke with the whole Miniſtry was in a ſhort time turned out, and ſo ſhe exchanged her beſt Friends for her greateſt Enemies. This gave *Ox———d* the entire Management of Affairs, of which he made ſo good Uſe, as to fill all vacant Places with ſuch as were ſtaunch to our Intereſt. The now L—d *B——k* was deemed the fitteſt Man to ſecond him, being, in reſpect of his Principle, a perfect Libertine, one to the laſt degree ambitious, and who, to ſupport his Debaucheries, wou'd run into any Meaſures. Our Friends now the only Perſons at the Helm, 'twas thought neceſſary to make a ſeparate Peace, in order to diſoblige the Allies, and ſo prevent them from performing the Guarantee of the Succeſſion, and thereby enable my Brother *Lewis* to ſet me on the Throne. This was accordingly perform'd; and in a little time after, every thing was prepared for my Reception. All Places of Strength in *Great Britain* were either left naked, or commanded by our Friends; greateſt Part of the Army was disbanded, and what remain'd was new-modell'd, the old Officers being turn'd out to make room for proper Perſons. My Brother *Lewis* had a ſufficient

ent Number of Men and Ships ready on the leaſt Warning. To this purpoſe, Sir *C———n P———ps* was ſent over to *Ireland* with Inſtructions to countenance the *Roman-Catholicks*, and brow-beat the *Hereticks*: 'Twas likewiſe one Part of his Inſtructions, to ſend me Men from thence; all which (to do him Juſtice) he perform'd with the greateſt Faithfulneſs. Had the ſanguine Advice of my Faithful *B———k* been taken, which was, as all things were prepared, to have invaded *Great Britain*, I had doubtleſs gain'd the Throne. But this was oppoſed by *Ox———d*, and the Chief of thoſe they now call the Scaramouches, who were confident they cou'd bring over to my Intereſt my Suppoſed Siſter. This was accordingly concluded on; and tho' they found it not the greateſt Difficulty to perſuade her to the Belief of my being her Brother; yet ſo great was her Zeal and Regard for the Church of *England*, that ſhe cou'd by no means be induced to chime in with our Meaſures, 'till ſuch time as ſhe ſhou'd be convinc'd I was a Proteſtant. The better to deceive her in this Affair, *Leſley* was deem'd a very proper Man, being a ſtaunch *Roman-Catholick*, under the Diſguiſe of a Divine of the Church of *England*. He was accordingly ſent over, and tho', ſoon after his Arrival, he with me re-

ceived the Holy Sacrament in our Communion, did not fail to ſend over an Account, That I had renounced to him (as they term it,) the Errors of the Church of *Rome*, and was become a very zealous Proteſtant. This with my own Aſſurances, and the Teſtimony of Honeſt *B*———*k*, That he had ſeen me receive the Sacrament in the Communion of the Church of *England*, at length gain'd the Point. All Difficulties being now overcome, I was to have receiv'd Poſſeſſion of the Crown in leſs than Three Months. But alas! how fickle are all Human Affairs; for in a Moment, even when 'twas thought morally impoſſible to prevent it, all our Hopes and Aſſurances were blaſted, by that dreadful, unforeſeen Accident, the Death of my ſuppoſed Siſter. But this we had not ſo much valued, had not that curſed Act of Succeſſion taken place, which at once ſnatch'd the Power out of our Friend's Hands, and lodged it in thoſe of our moſt inveterate Enemies.

Thus, Father, I have given you a ſhort Account of my publick Life; as for my private, I acknowledge it has been very ſinful, for I abounded in all the Vices of the Age. I muſt acknowledge, that the Conſideration of my private Sins, and the Actions I was obliged to perform in my

publick

publick Life, (which were in themſelves ſinful) gives me ſome Uneaſineſs, in reſpect to my future Happineſs. Before I can ſay any thing to you (ſays the Father,) on this Head, 'tis neceſſary you give me a direct Anſwer to the Queſtion I ſhall ask you. Had you always in your Thoughts a firm Reſolution of Eſtabliſhing the Church, Deſtroying of Hereticks, and Reſtoring the Church-Lands, in caſe you obtained the Crown? Yes, (replied the Pretender,) I ſolemnly declare, I had always thoſe Reſolutions neareſt my Heart. Then you may aſſure your ſelf (ſays the Father,) of Eternal Happineſs; for had you murdered your Father, lain with your Mother, and deflower'd your Siſter, and in ſo doing had but the leaſt Thought of promoting the Church's Intereſt, 'twou'd be meritorious. The Pretender being now entirely ſatisfied, as to his Future State, received the Sacraments of Abſolution and Extreme Unction, and at Four departed this Life, to the great Mortification of thoſe Grand Enemies of our Conſtitution, *Papiſts* and *Jacobites*, and the entire Satisfaction of all true *Britains*.

FINIS.